Growth of exports

2704. SHRI B.J. PANDA :

MISS MABEL REBELLO :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have fixed a target of 12 per cent growth in exports during the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the details of the projections of rise in different sectors;

(c) whether this target has been worked out in consultation with the Export Promotion Councils; and

(d) the kind of incentives that Government grant to the companies to boost the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The target for export growth of the merchandise goods as a whole for the year 2003-04 has been fixed at 12%. This target has been set in consultation with all the Export Promotion Bodies of India besides taking note of the global trade environment. The export growth rate during April-June, 2003-04 is 11.06% in dollar terms against the target of 12% for the whole year. As per quick estimates May, 2003, sectors which have shown good performance are, engineering goods, electronic goods, basic chemicals, readymade garments of all textiles, carpet, petroleum products, leather and leather manufactures, fruits & vegetables etc.

(d) Based on the strategies contained in the Medium Term Export Strategy 2002-07, announced in January, 2002, a number of programmes/ schemes have been launched through the Union Budget, 2003-04 and Exim Policy, 2003-04. In the Exim Policy, 2003-04, besides, the focus on Service exports, policies have been devised to strengthen Special Economic Zones (SEZs), 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs), etc. A new programme called "Focus CIS" has been introduced Duty Neutralization Schemes for import of inputs used for export production have been strengthened.